



## In this issue:

### Welcome

### The Center for What Works

### BOD Corner

### Bills of Interest

### Homeless in Idaho

### Recruiting Male Volunteers

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## Welcome

### *Working together towards a common goal.*

When I'm knee deep in bureaucracy and petty squabbles I try to take a moment and remember why we are all doing this job. Whether we are staff, volunteers or members of a board of directors, we are working not for the huge salaries, high praise or flashy accessories, but because we all want to make an impact.

Even if that impact comes on the smallest scale. Writing that perfect grant proposal that is only partially funded, improving the employee handbook, or finally getting a

child to see a dentist for the first time, it is the small impacts that add up to greatness. Our common goal has always been, and will always be, the best interest of the child. We may have different ideas on how to reach that goal but the goal remains the same.

We have an amazing amount of talent, and thank you for your willingness to share that talent. While I can't offer you flashy accessories, I can offer you a word of thanks. Thank you!

A.L. Kitselman said "I am are potent words; be careful what you hitch them to. The thing

you're claiming has a way of reaching back and claiming you." I am a wife, mother, friend, and supporter of children. I am a believer that everyone deserves a loving home and in leveling the playing field. I am a person who can make an impact in small ways. I hope the I am's reach back and claim me.

Okay, enough of the inspiring words. Get back to work; the children need you!

Sincerely,

*Nanci Thaemert*

## The Center for What Works

The Center for What Works is a nonprofit dedicated to building performance measurement capacity and developing a common language for the social sector to benchmark results, learn and improve.

The Center is focused on measuring outcomes for outcomes that are difficult to quantify. Items like community engagement, change in policy, improved condition of population and community satisfaction are listed with

corresponding indicators. This is an invaluable tool for the competitive grant market that requires solid outcomes and proof your organization is making a difference in the target population.

The Center also provides an impact measurement framework that allows users to define their mission impact statement and then choose up to three outcomes most relevant to that statement. Once the key outcomes are identified, users

choose the measureable indicators of success. The outcomes and indicators are based on research by the Center and Urban Institute. Once this process is completed, the tool generates a customized document. It can be printed and discussed within an organization. It represents a powerful tool that simplifies the often overwhelming process of identifying and articulating measures of successful results. Check it out at: [www.whatworks.org](http://www.whatworks.org)

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## Board of Directors Corner



*If your parents never  
had children, chances  
are you won't either.*

*Daniel Raeburn*

The U.S. Supreme Court's recent landmark decision in Citizen's United v. Federal Election Commission, concerning the application of certain election laws to corporations, does not change how other laws limit the election-related activities of charitable nonprofit organizations with tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. The National Council of Nonprofits prepared a brief analysis to clear up any confusion surrounding the decision. Here is an excerpt:

Federal law declares that charitable nonprofits and foundations may not participate in, or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for political office. Violating this prohibition may result in denial or revocation of tax-exempt status and the imposition of excise taxes. Readers of the Supreme Court's majority opinion must look at

the entire context, the underlying facts and the actual holding rather than just the sweeping language on page 50: "Government may not suppress political speech on the basis of the speaker's corporate identity. No sufficient governmental interest justified limits on the political speech of nonprofit or for profit corporations." That language does not allow 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofits to ignore other federal laws. Here's why:

(1) The issue the Court ruled on was the constitutionality of Section 441b of federal election laws as amended by the McCain-Feingold Act. That provision concerned the ability of corporations and unions to use their funds to advocate expressly for the election or defeat of candidates or to broadcast electioneering communications within 30 or 60 days of an election.

(2) On page 3 of the majority opinion, the Court essentially affirmed that federal law still prohibits corporations and unions from making direct contributions to candidates and from making independent expenditures that expressly advocate for the election or defeat of a candidate—which are similar to the prohibitions in Section 501(c)(3) that apply to charitable nonprofits.

(3) But according to the Courts opinion, Citizens United is a nonprofit, so doesn't that open the door to all nonprofits? No, because Citizens United is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit, and federal law has always given other nonprofits much greater latitude in election matters than (c)(3) charities. The reason: Donations to 501(c)(3) nonprofits are tax deductible.

If you have more questions, contact your accountant or lawyer



## Bills of Interest

For more information or full text of the bill visit:  
[www.isc.idaho.gov/legislat.htm](http://www.isc.idaho.gov/legislat.htm)

**S1253 – CHILDREN** – Amends statutory provisions regarding appeals to make them consistent with recently adopted Supreme Court rules, which require appeals in adoption and parental termination cases to be taken directly to the Supreme Court, and allow for permissive appeals in CPA cases and other cases involving the custody of a child. (Court defects bill.)

**S1312 – CHILDREN** – Amends I.C. § 16-1619 to add injury to a child resulting in serious or great bodily injury to the list of aggravated circumstances that remove

the requirement of reasonable efforts to prevent placement of a child in foster care.

**H0499 – CHILDREN** – Amends statutes relating to adoptions with regard to notice to be given to the biological father; provides that the an unmarried mother must disclose the name and, if known, the address and telephone number of the biological father; provides that an unmarried biological father must be afforded due process and actual notice before adoption placement occurs; provides that the

consent of the unmarried biological father is required for adoption unless the biological father has failed to appear or assert paternal interest within 30 days after receiving notice or 30 days after the birth, whichever is later, or the biological father cannot be located after due diligence.



## CASA CONTACTS

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## Homeless in Idaho

3

Americans will long remember this year as a time when overpaid bankers, captains of industry, and carmakers hobbled to Washington, hats in hand, begging for bailouts and infusions of billions of dollars. Ignored by members of Congress and the media were scores of children – many still infants and toddlers – who were homeless in the midst of this economic turmoil. Without a voice, more than 1.5 million of our nation's children go to sleep without a home each year. Homeless, these children also endure a lack of safety, comfort, privacy, reassuring routines, adequate health care, uninterrupted schooling, sustaining relationships, and a sense of community. These factors combine to create a life-altering experience that inflicts profound and lasting scars.

The National Center on Family Homelessness (NCFH) has created *America's Youngest Outcasts: State Report Card on Child Homelessness* to provide a comprehensive snapshot of child homelessness in America today. Studies show that homeless children are twice as likely as other children to repeat a grade in school, to be expelled from school, or to drop out of high school—and their estimated graduation rate is below 25%.

According to the study, Idaho ranks 23<sup>rd</sup> in the following domains (1) extent of child homelessness (2) child well-being (3) risk for child homelessness and (4) state policy and planning efforts. The numbers are staggering:

- ▶ 3,488 Idaho children are homeless
- ▶ 1 in 27 children in Idaho do not know where they will get their next meals
- ▶ Only 58% of children who are eligible are enrolled in food stamps
- ▶ At minimum wage a full-time worker earns 54% of what is needed to afford a 2-bedroom apartment

## Recruiting Male Volunteers

We have all heard the benefits of diversity in a volunteer pool. From establishing organizational experience to a better understanding of complex ethnic, cultural and gender issues, we all agree diversity is a good thing.

But how do you recruit a diverse pool of volunteers in a predominately Caucasian state? One way is to focus on more than just ethnicity and culture; focus your efforts on age, sex, and economic background. One underrepresented group the GAL programs often miss out on is males. Tips

for recruiting more male volunteers:

♂ Share Resources— Campaign with other organizations to recruit male volunteers.

♂ Be open, honest and ready to share concerns from the first point of contact with male volunteers.

♂ Connect volunteer work to financial and social impacts—Men are more drawn to programs that specify a design to fix a problem.

♂ Emphasize what will be

accomplished—Males are predominantly action-oriented.

♂ Host a targeted recruitment campaign where the men are—sports bars, sporting events, gyms and churches are all good spots.

♂ Alert males to the scarcity of and need for additional male volunteers.

♂ Personal invitations

♂ Change programmatically to appeal to male volunteers.